GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7285
ANSWERED ON:12.05.2000
BILATERAL TRADE WITH MAURITIUS
SUDARSANA E.M. NATCHIAPPAN

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Mauritius have agreed to promote bilateral trade;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed by both the countries in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) to (d) Yes Sir. India and Mauritius have agreed to promote bilateral trade. In this regard a bilateral Trade Agreement between two countries has been signed at Port Louis on 10th March, 2000 by Hon`ble Minister of State for External Affairs Mr. Ajit Kumar Panja from Indian side and the Hon`ble Dy. Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs & International Trade Mr. Rajkeswur Purryag from Mauritian side. Inter alia, the Agreement notes that both countries are members of WTO and are accordingly bound by multilateral trade disciplines as enunciated by Uruguay Round Agreements, Decisions & Declaration. Both the countries haveagreed to strengthen trade & economic relations and to encourage and facilitate contacts through the exchange of visits and delegations, participation in fairs and exhibitions and sharing of information. The focus of the Agreement is on establishment o f Joint Trade Committee for reviewing the implementation of the provisions of the Agreement and recommending measures for increasing the commercial exchange of goods and services between the contracting parties. It shall take stock of developments on trade taking place at the multilateral and regionals levels, and examine the trade pattern and flows of trade at the bi-lateral level. It will work out common strategies with regard to trade negotiations and other trade related issues at the Multilateral and Regional levels. It will advise on the setting up of joint ventures in the trade sector and trade related sectors and work out technical cooperation programmes in the trade sector and monitor their implementation. The Trade Agreement also specifies that import and export of goods and services shall be on the basis of contracts between the natural & juridical persons of the two countries and the payments for goods & services shall be in convertible currency. Safeguard clause have also been included in the trade agreement.